

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 10, 2012

CONTACT: Jeff Mammenga, Media Coordinator, (605) 773-6000,
Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us

State Historical Society lists four properties on National Register

PIERRE, S.D. – Four South Dakota properties were recently added to the National Register of Historic Places, according to the South Dakota State Historical Society. The listed properties are the Engel Hotel in Lake Andes, Garfield Lutheran Church and Cemetery in Bryant, the Odd Fellows Home in Dell Rapids, and the O.G. Bradshaw Elevator in Kimball.

The National Register is the official federal list of properties identified as important in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture. The State Historic Preservation Office of the State Historical Society works in conjunction with the National Park Service, which oversees the National Register program.

"South Dakota's history is rich in American Indian culture, pioneer life and change," said Jay D. Vogt, state historic preservation officer and director of the State Historical Society. "Properties listed on the National Register are important for their role in South Dakota's culture, heritage and history. And when properties get listed, it shows that their owners take pride in their role in preserving that culture, heritage and history."

Buildings, sites, structures and objects at least 50 years old possessing historical significance may qualify for the National Register, according to Vogt. Properties must also maintain their historic location, design, materials and association. Listing on the National Register does not place any limitations on private property owners by the federal government.

For more information on the National Register or other historic preservation programs, contact the State Historic Preservation Office at the Cultural Heritage Center, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2217; telephone (605) 773-3458 or website history.sd.gov/Preservation.

Summaries for each site are as follows.

Engel Hotel, Lake Andes

Located at 202 Main Street in Lake Andes, this three-story hotel was built by Frederick K. Engel. It was constructed in 1910 soon after the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad built a line through town. Early hotels provided temporary housing for incoming settlers and laborers, and lobbies were a place for locals to socialize and gather information from the wider world.

The Engel Hotel continued to contribute to the growth of Lake Andes as recreational opportunities were developed in the area. Through the early 20th century, the town hosted significant traffic coming to visit the wildlife refuge on Lake Andes and was a popular site for fishing and hunting.

The hotel is listed on the National Register for its significance as a business that facilitated economic development in Lake Andes. It is one of the few remaining buildings in Lake Andes that clearly demonstrate the historic connections of the community to the railroad both socially and economically.

Garfield Lutheran Church, Bryant

The Garfield Lutheran Church was organized in 1884 by a number of Norwegian immigrant families. They originally met at the schoolhouse which was considered part of Garfield Township, hence the congregation's name.

After much planning and fundraising, construction of the church began in 1900 on donated land located about five miles east of Bryant on Highway 28. Limited funds and use of volunteer labor from the congregation required that the building be inexpensive and easy to construct. The church was completed in 1901.

Listed on the National Register as a significant local example of a rural first-generation center-steeple church, it was built according to the simple nave plan that was popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Garfield Lutheran Church retains historic integrity by retaining original character-defining features such as its original floor plan, gable roof, clapboard siding, and central tower. It also contains many original interior features such as the pews, pulpit, altar and kneeling rail.

Odd Fellows Home, Dell Rapids

The Odd Fellows Home, 100 W. Tenth Street in Dell Rapids, was built in 1910 by the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.). Completed in 1911, it served as both an orphanage and a home for aged members of their fraternal organization. In 1947, they stopped operating as an orphanage but continued to be an elder care facility until being sold in 1998.

The Odd Fellows Home is listed on the National Register both for its significance in social history and in architecture. The Home was the only welfare institution built by the I.O.O.F. within South Dakota and was also the first and only home for dependent children built by a fraternal order in South Dakota.

The Home is also listed as an outstanding example of early 20th-century Italian Renaissance Revival architecture. Designed by Sioux Falls architect Joseph Schwarz, buildings are made of distinctive Sioux quartzite with limestone accents. Local quarries, which were a significant Dell Rapids industry, provide the quartzite.

O.G. Bradshaw Elevator, Kimball

The O.G. Bradshaw Elevator is located at 220 W. Railroad Street in Kimball. The 20,000-bushel elevator was built by Oscar G. Bradshaw in 1908 using crib construction for its nine bins. It remained in operation under the same owner until Bradshaw passed away in 1956.

Operated independently, the Bradshaw Elevator provided a third option for area farmers in addition to the elevators owned by the railroad line company or the county cooperative. In terms of economic development, being independent meant profits were re-invested by the owner back into the community.

The elevator is listed on the National Register for its local significance in the areas of agriculture and commerce. It not only contributed to the social and economic growth of Kimball, but it also provided an important connection between local farmers and the expansive grain transportation network.

Also recognized in the area of architecture, the Bradshaw Elevator is significant because of its self-contained design and the fact that it retains excellent integrity to its original construction.

-30-

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism, the South Dakota Arts Council, and the State Historical Society. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen. The State Historical Society is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.